

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 AID-20 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02 TRSE-00 XMB-07

OPIC-12 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 AGR-20 DRC-01

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8427

UNCLAS ADDIS ABABA 3958

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PGOV PINT SGEN ET

SUBJ: NEW CABINET'S POLICY DECLARATION - LAND REFORM

REF: ADDIS ABABA 3957

TEXT OF SECTION OF NEW CABINET'S POLICY DECLARATION DEALING WITH
LAND REFORM FOLLOWS:

1. LAND REFORM IS ONE OF MAJOR INSTRUMENTS TO ACHIEVE LONG-TERM
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES SET FORTH ABOVE. IN
ORDER ACCELERATE PACE OF DEVELOPMENT AND RAISE STANDARD OF LIVING
OF VAST MAJORITY PEOPLE, FAR-REACHING AND PURPOSEFUL REFORMS IN
LAND TENURE SYSTEM ARE REQUIRED.

2. TRADITIONAL LAND TENURE SYSTEM HAS SEVERLY CONSTRAINED
AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIVITY. I AREAS WHERE TENANCY PREVAILS, DEPRIVED
OF ADEQUATE COMPENSATION, TENANT FARMER DOES NOT HAVE INCENTIVE
PRODUCE ADEQUATELY. I SOME OTHER AREAS LAND HOLDINGS HAVE
BECOME ECESSIVELY FRAGMENTED AND UNECONOMICAL AS RESULT OF
SUCCESSIVE INHERITANCE. IN AREAS WITH LONG HISTORY OF
SETTLEMENT, PROBLEM IS ONE OF DEFORESTATION, SOIL EROSION, AND
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IN OSME INSTANCES, OVER-POPULATION. AREAS INHABITED BY NOMADS

PRESENT UET ANOTHER CATEGORY OF PROBLEMS WHERE LAND ENURE
AND LIEVEWTOCK DEVELOPMENT REQUIRE SPECIAL ATTENTION.

3. IN ORDER IMPROVE CONDITION OF 90 PERCENT OF POPULATION
WHICH IS ENGAGED IN AGRICULTURE, APPROPRAITE ACTIONS WILL BE
AKEN TO IMPLEMENT FOLLOWING MEASURES OF LAND REFORM:

4. DISTRIBUTION OF LAND - RECOGNIZING IT ONLY WHEN TENANT FARMER
BECOMES OWNER HIS LAND HE ACQUIRES NECESSARY INCENTIVE PRODUCE
MORE AND CONTRIBUTE TO HIS FULL CAPAICTY OT DEVELOPMENT OF HIS
COUNTRY GOVERNMENT WILL INITIATE POLICY OF ENBALING TENEANT
FARMER AND THOSE WHO MAY WISH DERIVE THEIR LIVING BY WORKING ON
LAND TO ACQUIRE THEIR OWN FARMS.

5. WITH THAT END IN VIEW, GOVERNMENT WILL IMMEDIATELY UNDETAKE
FOLLOWING ACTION:

(I) EXCEPT FOR LAND DESIGNATED FOR COLLECTIVE AND PUBLIC USE,
GOVERNMENT LAND GRANTS WILL HENCEFORTH BE MADE ONLY TO THOSE
WHO SHALL MAKE THIE LIVELIHOOD BY WORKING ON THE LAND.

(II) HOLDINGS IN EXCESS OF WHAT CONSIDERRED BE A EASONABLE LIMIT
OF OWNER'S CAPACITY TO DEVOP WILL BE TAKEN OVER BY THE GOVERN-
MENT AND DISTRIBUTED TO THOSE WHO WILL MAKE THEIR LIVING BY
WORKING ON THE LAND. WITH REGARD TO RELEVANT ECOLOGICAL
CODITIONS, MAXIMUM LAND HOLDINGS AND APPROPRIATE MODALITIES
FOR COMPENSATION WILL BE DETERMINED BY LAW.

6. LANDLORD-TENANT RELATIONSHIPS - RECOGNIZING NEED REGULATE
ON EQUITABLE BASIS RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN TENANT AND LANDLORD WHILE
SPECIFIC MEASRUES ENVISAGED ABOVE ARE BEING IMPLEMENTED,
NEW DRAFT LAW, CONFORMING TO SPIRIT AND PURPOSE OF PRESENT
POLICY STATEMENT WILL BE PREAPARED AND SUBMITTED PARLIAMENT
TO REPLACE OR AMEND, AS APPROPRIATE, EXISTING LEGISLATION ON
LANDLORD-TENANT RELATIONSHIPS.

7. SPECIAL MEASURES FOR FRAGMENTED HOLDINGS- IN AREAS WHERE
COMMUNAL AND INDIVIDUAL LAND HOLDINGS PREVAIL (COMMONLY
REFERRED TO AS EREST AREAS), PROBLEM BEING ONE OF EXCESSIVE
FRAGMENTATION INTO UNECONOMIC UNITS, SOIL EROSION AND LACK OF
MODERN TECHNIQUES OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, SPECIAL
MEASURES WILL BE UNDERTAKEN WITH VIEW TO INCREASING
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FARMER'S PRODUCTIVE CAPACITY.
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